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(54) CARBONACEOUS HOLLOW BODY CATALYST, AND ITS MANUFACTURE, AND USE

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To provide a photocatalyst having excellent adsorption and powerful oxidation capability, being capable of effectively removing and decomposing particularly organic compounds in waste water, and the manufacturing method, and use method thereof. SOLUTION: In the carbonaceous hollow body catalyst supporting a photocatalyst (e.g. metal oxide semiconductor including titanium oxide, zinc oxide, and iron oxide) on the surface of microsphere carbonaceous hollow body, the catalyst preferably can be used for adsorption—removing and decomposing organic compounds in water (particularly in waste water) because it has a large surface area and tend to buoy up on the water surface. The catalyst can be manufactured by rendering it to support the photocatalyst on the surface of the microsphere hollow body obtained by rapidly heating a carbonaceous material (powder coal or pitch) in the state of less oxygen content where incomplete combustion occurs, or by that the carbonaceous material is rendered to include tetra-valent titanium compounds including titanium isopropoxide or titanium tetrachloride as an aqueous solution and the like, and then it is rapidly heated.

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CLAIMS

[Claim(s)]

[Claim 1]A carbonaceous hollow body catalyst, wherein a photocatalyst is supported by the surface of a minute spherical carbonaceous hollow body.

[Claim 2]A manufacturing method of the carbonaceous hollow body catalyst according to claim 1 making a minute spherical carbonaceous hollow body obtained by heating a powdered

carbonaceous material quickly in an inert atmosphere support a photocatalyst.

[Claim 3]A manufacturing method of the carbonaceous hollow body catalyst according to claim 1 heating quickly and calcinating subsequently in an inert atmosphere after making a powdered carbonaceous material support a photocatalyst catalyst precursor.

[Claim 4] The directions for a carbonaceous hollow body catalyst disassembling an organic compound underwater contained using the carbonaceous hollow body catalyst according to claim 1.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[Detailed Description of the Invention]

[Field of the Invention] Adsorption power of this invention is large and it has strong oxidizing power, removes especially the organic compound under wastewater efficiently, and relates to the manufacturing method and the directions for the carbonaceous hollow body catalyst which can be decomposed, and its catalyst.

[0002]

[Description of the Prior Art]It is known well that a semiconductor shows the oxidation as a photocatalyst. In order to make a photocatalysis perform using this semiconductor, the semiconductor powder of fine powder form is made generally suspended in the solution containing the quality of an oxide, and the method of irradiating this is taken. [0003]In order to remove the low-concentration organic compound contained in wastewater, adsorption and the method of removing are performed for many years using activated carbon, but the method of using for the oxidative degradation of the organic compound under wastewater the photocatalyst effect which the above semiconductors have is also publicly known. For example, By using the activated carbon which supported the titanium oxide (TiO₂) which has a photocatalyst effect. The method of disassembling efficiently the organic compound (weed killer) contained during wastewater is proposed (Chemistry Letters (The Chemical Society of Japan), P.1995–1998 (1993)).

[0004] That thus, a semiconductor photocatalyst is used for disassembly of the organic compound under wastewater, The strength of the oxidizing power which a photocatalyst has is also because the concentration of an organic compound is small in wastewater with last thing, using sunlight as energy moreover since the throughput is immense sees in cost and it is desirable.

[0005] Since the method of facing being under wastewater and making a photocatalysis perform, making it suspended while draining semiconductor powder conventionally, and irradiating this with sunlight is taken, specific gravity is large and the catalyst which is draining and precipitates easily is not preferred. Since a limitation is among the depth which sunlight reaches, for irradiate with sunlight this semiconductor powder that precipitates easily and demonstrating a catalysis, it is necessary big to make an acceptance surface product remarkable.

[0006]In how for the above to have been proposed, since true specific gravity is 1.6-2.1, and activated carbon is under wastewater and precipitates easily, processing of churning, recovery, etc. faces using sunlight further rather than is easy, and there is a problem that big an acceptance surface product must be made remarkable as mentioned above.

[0007] Although it is not the example made into the object of processing of wastewater, to JP,6-170220, A. The deodorant which made the photocatalyst (metallic oxides, such as ${\rm TiO}_2$, ${\rm WO}_3$, and

Fe₂O₃) support on the surface of activated carbon and which can maintain the stable

deodorizing function over a long period of time is indicated. This photocatalyst demonstrates the effect outstanding to disassembly of the organic compound (odor component) in the gaseous phase. However, in the liquid phase, since a photocatalyst body sediments similarly in how for the above to have been proposed, it is inapplicable to disassembly of the organic compound contained during wastewater.

[0008]On the other hand, the floating titanium oxide photocatalyst which made the surface of about 100 micrometers in diameter a glass hollow body support a photocatalyst (TiO₂) was developed (catalyst chemicals "p.129–132 with which "Quarterly Chmistry Survey" No.23(1994)" light is concerned). Since this catalyst floats in water, it can use sunlight efficiently and is made suitable for disassembly of floating organic compounds (for example, crude oil etc. which flowed at sea). However, since quality of an oxide cannot be efficiently decomposed since important specific surface area cannot be enlarged by a photocatalysis, and there is also almost no adsorption capacity, under conditions without an optical exposure, adsorption and removal of an organic compound cannot be performed.

[0009]

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention] This invention solves the semiconductor photocatalyst and the above—mentioned problem for disassembling the organic compound under wastewater using especially this photocatalyst of having the operation which carries out oxidative degradation of the organic compound, and use of sunlight is easy for it, Reaction efficiency is high and it is made also under the conditions which moreover do not have an optical exposure for the purpose of providing the photocatalyst body in which adsorption and removal are possible, its manufacturing method, and the directions for an organic compound.

[Means for Solving the Problem]In order that this invention persons may solve the above—mentioned technical problem, as a result of repeating examination, by using a hollow body of minute spherical carbonaceous as a carrier of a photocatalyst, It found out that it was possible to face to use sunlight, and for it not to be necessary to enlarge an acceptance surface product remarkable, to enlarge specific surface area of a catalyst, and to make a decomposition reaction perform efficiently.

[0011]In order to make the surface of a hollow body of the aforementioned minute spherical carbonaceous support a photocatalyst, It is considered as a minute spherical carbonaceous hollow body by heating quickly coal and a pitch which were pulverized under an inertness atmosphere, They are tetravalent titanium compounds (in this invention.), such as titanium isopropoxide and titanium tetrachloride, to coal and a pitch which made this support a photocatalyst or were pulverized. this — "a photocatalyst catalyst precursor" — saying — you made it impregnated as an alcohol solution or solution, and it checked that what is necessary was just to heat quickly under an inertness atmosphere.

[0012]If a carbonaceous hollow body photocatalyst for which the surface of the above—mentioned minute spherical carbonaceous hollow body was made to support a photocatalyst is used, mixing oils, such as an organic compound contained during wastewater, for example, BTX which was conventionally difficult to process, (benzene, toluene, xylene), and a lubricating oil, agricultural chemicals, etc. can be disassembled easily.

[0013] This invention was made based on the above-mentioned knowledge, and the gist is in a manufacturing method of the catalyst of a carbonaceous hollow body catalyst of following (1), (2), and (3), and the directions for the catalyst of (4).

[0014](1) A carbonaceous hollow body catalyst, wherein a photocatalyst is supported by the

surface of a minute spherical carbonaceous hollow body.

[0015](2) A manufacturing method of a carbonaceous hollow body catalyst given in the above (1) making a minute spherical carbonaceous hollow body obtained by heating a powdered carbonaceous material quickly in an inert atmosphere support a photocatalyst.

[0016](3) A manufacturing method of a carbonaceous hollow body catalyst given in the above (1) heating quickly and calcinating subsequently in an inert atmosphere after making a powdered carbonaceous material support a photocatalyst catalyst precursor.

[0017](4) The directions for a carbonaceous hollow body catalyst disassembling an organic compound underwater contained in the above (1) using a carbonaceous hollow body catalyst of a statement.

[0018]

[Embodiment of the Invention]Below, this invention (above (1) invention of – (4)) is explained in detail.

[0019] The carbonaceous hollow body catalyst (especially this is hereafter called "carbonaceous hollow body catalyst of this invention") of an invention of the above (1) is a catalyst with which the photocatalyst was supported by the surface of the minute spherical carbonaceous hollow body.

[0020] Although the aforementioned minute spherical carbonaceous hollow body is explained in full detail behind, they are porous carbon particles whose relative bulk density obtained by heating coal and the pitch which were pulverized as a raw material is $0.02-0.1 \text{ g/cm}^3$ and whose particle diameter is 100-2500 micrometers. After supporting a photocatalyst, apparent relative density is smaller than water, it has floating (character to float on the water surface), and specific surface area is very large.

[0021]A photocatalyst is a substance which will reveal a photocatalyst function if it irradiates with the light of wavelength which has the energy more than the band gap, for example, publicly known metal oxide semiconductors, such as titanium oxide, a zinc oxide, strontium titanate, tungstic oxide, yttrium oxide, and iron oxide, are mentioned. Such semi-conducting material may be single and may be the mixture or multiple oxide in which two or more kinds were put together. As this photocatalyst, it has especially high photocatalyst ability, and stable and harmless titanium oxide is chemically preferred.

[0022] The photocatalyst holding amount of the minute spherical carbonaceous hollow body of above—mentioned this invention will not be limited especially if this hollow body is the quantity which can maintain floating where a photocatalyst is supported. However, specific surface area with a big carbonaceous hollow body is held enough, and simultaneously, it is preferred [the dispersibility of a photocatalyst is also good, and] that it is 100 or less % of the weight to a carbonaceous hollow body so that higher photocatalyst activity can be acquired. It is 50 or less % of the weight more preferably.

[0023] Since the carbonaceous hollow body catalyst of an invention of this invention has the operation which photooxidizes an organic compound and the minute spherical carbonaceous hollow body is moreover used as a carrier, it has the following feature.

[0024]** Sunlight arrives easily that it is [therefore] easy to gather on the water surface like the case where a glassiness hollow body is used as a carrier (having floating).

[0025]** A minute spherical carbonaceous hollow body has large specific surface area like activated carbon.

[0026]** The carbonaceous hollow body catalyst can adsorb the quality of an oxide like activated carbon.

[0027] The invention of the above (4) is the method of using this carbonaceous hollow body catalyst for disassembly of the organic compound contained underwater. That is, they are an organic compound which makes the most of the above-mentioned feature which the carbonaceous hollow body catalyst of this invention has, and is underwater contained using this carbonaceous hollow body catalyst, and the method of disassembling BTX under wastewater, a mixing oil, etc. especially.

[0028] Facing using this carbonaceous hollow body catalyst, special devices are not required. For example, if add this carbonaceous hollow body catalyst during wastewater containing the above-

mentioned organic compound, it is made to distribute and it agitates if needed, a catalyst surface will be adsorbed and an organic compound will be condensed. If it puts to sunlight, oxidative degradation of the adsorbed aforementioned organic compound will be efficiently carried out by the photocatalyst grains of a carbonaceous hollow body catalyst which have gathered on the water surface.

[0029] Since this carbonaceous hollow body catalyst has the characteristic of being easy to gather on the water surface, it can use sunlight, without needing a big acceptance surface product. Since specific surface area is large, reaction efficiency is high. When adsorption treatment of the organic compound is carried out also under conditions without an optical exposure and light is irradiated, oxidative degradation of the organic compound to which it stuck can be carried out, and adsorption capacity can be recovered. Therefore, high fixed adsorption capacity can always be maintained and it is suitable also for repeated use. Therefore, it is especially suitable for the oxidative degradation of the organic compound under wastewater, and efficient decomposition treatment is possible.

[0030] The carbonaceous hollow body catalyst of this invention is effective in removal and disassembly of organic compounds generally contained underwater, such as not only the organic compound under wastewater but a waterworks, industrial water, or sea water. Therefore, it can be used in extensive fields, such as processing of the river water containing toxic substances, such as the so-called purifying treatment of factory effluent and the domestic wasted water discharged from an ordinary home, agricultural chemicals, and an organic halogenated compound, groundwater, etc., or a marine oil spill, processing of red tide etc.

[0031] The aforementioned invention of (2) is a manufacturing method of the carbonaceous hollow body catalyst of above—mentioned this invention, and is the method of making the surface of the minute spherical hollow body produced by heating a powdered carbonaceous material quickly in an inertness atmosphere supporting a photocatalyst.

[0032] The carbonaceous material used as a raw material is powdered coal, a pitch, etc., and it is pulverized so that particle diameter may be preferably set to 5 mm or less.

[0033] These raw materials are quickly heated under an inertness atmosphere. Oxygen of quantity with an inertness atmosphere insufficient for a raw material burning completely is contained, and combustion is the atmosphere which advances in the imperfect state. If an excessive amount of oxygen exists in burning completely rather than a complement or it, coal and a pitch burn completely and the minute spherical carbonaceous hollow body made into the purpose cannot be obtained.

[0034]It carries out for accumulating and it is preferred that cooking temperature shall be which heating carries out gasification separation of the volatile constituent contained in a raw material, and carbonizes the remainder] 600–900 **. If cooking temperature is lower than 600 **, the specific gravity of the hollow body of the carbonaceous acquired by the volatile constituent contained in the raw material fully not gasifying will become large easily. If it exceeds 900 **, the cost which heating takes increases and it is not economical.

[0035]In order to obtain the carbonaceous hollow body which has large specific surface area, it is required to include the air bubbles generated by gasification to what was generated inside particles, and to expand them quickly, and it heats quickly. In moderate heating, growth of the air bubbles itself is slow, and since carbonization is completed before expanding enough, the carbonaceous hollow body with large specific surface area which has many holes is not obtained. As for rapid heating, it is preferred to cover the total temperature range from near a room temperature to the aforementioned cooking temperature (600–900 **), and to carry out with the heating rate at 200–600 **/second.

[0036] In order to perform the above-mentioned rapid heating, it is preferred to use a fluid bed type or air current layer type reactor. From the downstream of a reactor which has the reaction zone which used these reactors, for example, was heated by 600-900 **, the gas by which oxygen of a quantity insufficient for a raw material and this raw material burning completely is contained is supplied, namely, the incomplete combustion of the raw material is carried out under an atmosphere [inertness / above].

[0037]A part of coal which is a raw material, and pitch can also be used as a heat source under

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the conditions which advance in the state with imperfect combustion in this way. In that case, although it falls, since activation of the minute spherical carbonaceous hollow body to generate is carried out with the steam produced in combustion of some raw materials, the yield of the target carbonaceous hollow body is preferred.

[0038] Since the minute spherical carbonaceous hollow body generated by such heat—treatment is discharged with the gas which contains combustion gas from the upstream part of a reactor, filtration, specific gravity separation, etc. separate with gas.

[0039]The relative bulk density is [0.02 - 0.1 g/cm³ and the particle diameter of the minute spherical carbonaceous hollow body obtained] 100-2500 micrometers. Although it is greatly dependent on the description (especially the amount of volatile constituents, an ash content) of the raw material to be used, the description adjusts suitably the length of the reaction zone in a reactor, the speed of supply of a raw material and inactive gas, etc. so that the minute spherical carbonaceous hollow body of proper description may be obtained.

[0040] Thus, the obtained minute spherical carbonaceous hollow body is made to support the aforementioned photocatalyst.

[0041] There is no limitation in particular about the support method of these photocatalysts, and the impregnating method, the kneading method, etc. can be made to support with the usual catalyst method of preparation.

[0042]In making titanium oxide support, for example, titanium isopropanal KISHIDO, After dipping a carbonaceous hollow body in the tetravalent alcohol solution or solution of a titanium compound (namely, photocatalyst catalyst precursor), such as titanium tetrachloride and titanium sulfate, enough and impregnating with a titanium compound, filtration, centrifugal separation, etc. separate this carbonaceous hollow body. Then, by performing steam treatment air—drying or if needed, a titanium compound is hydrolyzed, and the target carbonaceous hollow body catalyst is continuously acquired desiccation and by calcinating.

[0043] Calcination makes a carbonaceous hollow body support a photocatalyst firmly, and although the thing which give endurance and which it carries out for accumulating and is performed under non-oxidizing atmospheres, such as nitrogen and argon, is desirable, when calcinating below at the temperature to which carbonaceous does not burn, even if it carries out in the air, it does not interfere. What is necessary is just a temperature region which limitation in particular does not have, and combination arises and solidifies among the particles of the photocatalyst made to support about calcination temperature and which what is called a sintering phenomenon produces. However, it is necessary to choose the firing condition that many anatase crystals which have high photocatalyst ability are included in the case of a titanium dioxide.

[0044] According to the method mentioned above, a special means is not needed but the carbonaceous hollow body catalyst of said this invention can be manufactured easily. [0045] Similarly the aforementioned invention of (3) is a manufacturing method of the carbonaceous hollow body catalyst of this invention, and after it makes a carbonaceous material support a photocatalyst catalyst precursor, it is the method of heating quickly and calcinating under an inert atmosphere further.

[0046] As a carbonaceous material, powdered coal, a pitch, etc. are similarly used in the invention of the above (2). What was pulverized so that particle diameter might be set to 5 mm or less is preferred.

[0047] Photocatalyst catalyst precursors are tetravalent titanium compounds, such as titanium isopropanal KISHIDO, titanium tetrachloride, and titanium sulfate, as mentioned above, and after fully dipping a carbonaceous material in that alcohol solution or solution and impregnating with a titanium compound, filtration, centrifugal separation, etc. separate this carbonaceous material. [0048] Subsequently, the carbonaceous material impregnated with the photocatalyst catalyst precursor is quickly heated under an inertness atmosphere. With an inertness atmosphere, it is the same as that of the case of an invention of the above (2), oxygen of a quantity insufficient for a raw material burning completely is contained, and combustion is the atmosphere which advances in the imperfect state. Since a carbonaceous material will burn completely if an excessive amount of oxygen exists in burning thoroughly rather than a complement or it, the

target carbonaceous hollow body catalyst cannot be acquired.

[0049]As for cooking temperature, it is preferred to consider it as 600–900 **. If cooking temperature is lower than 600 **, gasification of the volatile constituent contained in the raw material is not enough, and the specific gravity of the hollow body obtained becomes large easily. On the other hand, if it exceeds 900 **, the cost which heating takes will increase. [0050]Heating is performed quickly. With the aforementioned invention of (2) having described, a carbonaceous hollow body with large specific surface area is similarly obtained by this, and a new combination arises further by it between the carboxyl group and hydroxyl group which carbonaceous materials (coal, a pitch, etc.) have, and a photocatalyst catalyst precursor. That is, it will be in the state where the photocatalyst was chemically fixed to the carbonaceous hollow body, and the stability will improve. As for rapid heating, it is preferred to cover the total temperature range from near a room temperature to the aforementioned cooking temperature (600–900 **), and to carry out with the heating rate at 200–600 **/second like the case of an invention of (2).

[0051]In order to perform the above-mentioned rapid heating, it is preferred to heat beforehand for example, using thermostat, such as an electric furnace and a muffle furnace, to the temperature which the aforementioned combination produces between a carbonaceous material and a photocatalyst catalyst precursor, and to insert in and heat the carbonaceous material which impregnated with the aforementioned photocatalyst catalyst precursor into it. [0052] After finishing rapid heating, it calcinates further. If calcination is under the condition on which the carbonaceous of the carbonaceous hollow body catalyst which is fixed still more firmly by making the particles of the photocatalyst in the state where it was fixed to the carbonaceous hollow body sinter like the case of an invention of (2), and which it carries out for accumulating and is an object of this invention does not burn, there will be no limitation in particular about the atmosphere at the time of calcination. Although it is desirable to carry out under non-oxidizing atmospheres, such as nitrogen and argon, when calcinating below at the temperature to which carbonaceous does not burn, it does not interfere, even if it carries out in the air. [0053]What is necessary is just a temperature region which limitation in particular does not have about calcination temperature, either, and the above-mentioned sintering phenomenon produces. However, it is necessary to choose the firing condition that many anatase crystals which have high photocatalyst ability are similarly included in the invention of (2) in the case of a titanium dioxide.

[0054] Since it can calcinate simultaneously with rapid heating by inserting in a raw material in the thermostat heated by 600-900 ** for example, and holding as it is if the above-mentioned thermostat in which the rapid temperature up of charge is possible is used, it is suitable. [0055] Also by the method of the above-mentioned invention of (3), the carbonaceous hollow body catalyst of said this invention can be manufactured easily, without needing a special means.

[0056]When the invention of the above (2) is compared with the invention of (3), by the invention of (2), there is a tendency for what has large specific surface area to be obtained, by the invention of (3) to a comparatively ****** thing being obtained. Although the yield of the carbonaceous hollow body catalyst acquired becomes low in the invention of (3), there is the feature that photocatalysts, such as a titanium dioxide, are firmly combinable with a carbonaceous hollow body via the functional groups (a carboxyl group, a hydroxyl group, etc.) which components used as a carbonaceous material, such as coal, have.

[0057]Therefore, according to the kind of organic compound contained in the processing object performed using this carbonaceous hollow body catalyst, concentration, or processing environment, a manufacturing method is used properly and it becomes possible to use the catalyst which was adapted for each condition.

[0058]

[Example]

(Example 1) Sub-bituminous coal ground in particle diameter of 0.5-3 mm as a carbonaceous material (raw material of a carbonaceous hollow body) (46% of a volatile constituent) Using the anhydrous ash-free standard, this was inserted in the air current layer type reactor, heat-

treatment which carries out rapid temperature up (reaction-time 3 seconds) to 600 ** was performed, flotation of the generated carbonaceous hollow body was carried out with water, and the floating minute spherical carbonaceous hollow body was obtained. The relative bulk density was 0.09 g/cm³, and the BET specific surface area was 100cm²/g.

[0059]10 g of this carbonaceous hollow body was put into the solution which mixed 30 g of titanium isopropanal KISHIDO to 30 ml of ethanol (ml), and it agitated gently suitably for 3 hours, giving an ultrasonic wave. Subsequently, after the ** exception's having carried out floating matter and air-drying this for 24 hours, the carbonaceous hollow body catalyst which supported titanium oxide 30% of the weight to the carbonaceous hollow body was acquired by drying [for 2 hours] and calcinating at 600 ** under a nitrogen air current (a part for 200-ml/) continuously at 250 ** among the air for 5 hours. It checked that the supported titanium oxide was an anatase type crystal by X-ray diffraction.

[0060]Thus, the benzene added to distilled water using the acquired carbonaceous hollow body catalyst was oxidized.

[0061] First, 30 cm of mixed liquor ³ which added benzene so that it might become 50 millimols / liter (mmol/l) was put into distilled water, 0.5 g of carbonaceous hollow body catalysts are added to this, it was distributed in the flat tip cell (the product made from Pyrex, 6 cm in inside diameter, a depth of 5 cm), and it was covered with the disk made from quartz. Subsequently, under air saturation, magnetic churning was carried out gently, without performing an optical exposure (500 rpm), and the benzene concentration in [of 1 hour after] liquid was measured. This is the examination done supposing the case where sunlight cannot be used. [0062] Then, the light of the high-pressure mercury-vapor lamp of 250W was made to react by

glaring through UV cut-off filter (Toshiba UV-31) from the upper part in 25 **. At the time of a reaction, the catalyst existed in the oil level by the floating state, and it checked that light was irradiated all over the.

[0063] analysis of benzene and its decomposition product — a liquid phase part — high performance chromatography (column; Toso TSK-gel ODS-80TS) — gas chromatography (column; UNIBEADS-C made from GL science) performed the gas phase portion. [0064] As a result, benzene was adsorbed by the carbonaceous hollow body catalyst while agitating gently, without carrying out an optical exposure, and the concentration decreased from 50 mmol/l to 10.5 mmol/l in 1 hour. After that, oxidative degradation of the benzene was carried out by the optical exposure of 4 hours, and, in carbon dioxide, 0.88mmol and carbon monoxide carried out 0.07mmol generation by it.

[0065](Example 2) 80 g of titanium isopropanal KISHIDO was dropped at 500 cm of distilled water ³ agitated violently, and 5 g of nitric acid (60%) was added after that. after [subsequently,] agitating in 80 ** for 24 hours and condensing under a vacuum — further — the sol which adds 1N sodium hydroxide solution, adjusts pH, and contains titanium oxide 10% of the weight — liquid (pH about 3.0) was obtained.

[0066]this sol — 10 g of carbonaceous hollow bodies which are not supporting the titanium oxide prepared in Example 1 were put into liquid, and it agitated gently for 5 hours. Then, after the ** exception carried out floating matter and distilled water fully washed, it calcinated at 250 ** among the air for 2 hours, and the carbonaceous hollow body catalyst which supported titanium oxide 45% of the weight was acquired. It checked that this titanium oxide existed as an anatase type crystal by X-ray diffraction.

[0067] Thus, benzene was oxidized using the acquired carbonaceous hollow body catalyst. The conditions and analytical method of oxidation presupposed that it is the same as the case of Example 1.

[0068]As a result, the concentration of benzene decreased from 50 mmol/l to 12.4 mmol/l by adsorption to the carbonaceous hollow body catalyst [it agitates gently, without carrying out an optical exposure] of a between. After that, oxidative degradation of the benzene was carried out by the optical exposure of 4 hours, and, in carbon dioxide, 1.15mmol and carbon monoxide carried out 0.025mmol generation by it.

[0069](Example 3) Sub-bituminous coal ground as a carbonaceous material in particle diameter

of 0.5–3 mm used in Example 1 (46% of a volatile constituent) The 10 g was put into the solution which mixed 30 g of titanium isopropanal KISHIDO to 30 ml of ethanol using the anhydrous ashfree standard, and it agitated gently suitably for 3 hours, giving an ultrasonic wave. Subsequently, after the ** exception's having carried out floating matter and air-drying this for 24 hours, it put in the thermostat continuously dried [for 2 hours] and held at 600 ** under a nitrogen atmosphere at 250 ** among the air, and calcinated for 5 hours, and titanium oxide acquired 6 g of carbonaceous hollow body catalysts supported by the carbonaceous hollow body. It checked that the rate over the carbonaceous hollow body catalyst of titanium oxide was 35 % of the weight, and was an anatase type crystal by X-ray diffraction.

[0070] Thus, although there were what floats on water surface, and a thing which sinks underwater in the acquired carbonaceous hollow body catalyst, while it had been in the state in which both were intermingled, the benzene in solution was oxidized by the same method as Example 1. The conditions and analytical method of oxidation presupposed that it is the same as the case of Example 1.

[0071]As a result, while agitating gently, without performing an optical exposure, benzene was adsorbed by the carbonaceous hollow body catalyst, and the concentration decreased from 50 mmol/l to 10 mmol/l in 1 hour. After that, oxidative degradation of the benzene was carried out by the optical exposure of 4 hours, and, in carbon dioxide, 0.9mmol and carbon monoxide carried out 0.08mmol generation by it.

[0072](Example 4) 0.1 g of industrial lube of a petroleum system used in an iron mill was added to 30 ml of water, and the oxidative degradation examination of the lubricating oil was done on it by the same method as Example 1 using the liquid which distributed 0.5 g of carbonaceous hollow body catalysts prepared in Example 1. The lubricating oil was extracted from the filtrate using chloroform, and measurement of underwater lubricating oil quantity was performed by measuring the absorbance of the extract, after filtering a catalyst.

[0073]As a result, while agitating gently, without carrying out an optical exposure, the carbonaceous hollow body was adsorbed in about 80% of lubricating oils. After that, oxidative degradation of the lubricating oil was carried out by the optical exposure of 4 hours, and, in carbon dioxide, 1.3mmol and carbon monoxide carried out 0.30mmol generation by it. [0074](Comparative example 1) Benzene was oxidized on the same conditions as the case of Example 1 except [all] it instead of the carbonaceous hollow body catalyst, using 0.3 g of commercial titanium oxide (product P-25 made from Japanese Aerosil) as a catalyst. [0075]As a result, the concentration of benzene hardly decreased, while agitating gently, without carrying out an optical exposure, and adsorption of benzene was not accepted. After that, although 0.19mmol and carbon monoxide carried out 0.062mmol generation by the optical exposure of 4 hours in carbon dioxide, there was little the quantity far compared with Examples 1 and 2.

[0076](Comparative example 2) Benzene was oxidized on the same conditions as the case of Example 1 except [all] it, using as a catalyst the glass hollow body (20.4 % of the weight titanium oxide holding amount : to a glass hollow body) which made the titanium oxide which consists of an anatase type crystal prepared independently instead of a carbonaceous hollow body catalyst support. At this time, the catalyst floated on the oil level like the case where a carbonaceous hollow body catalyst is used, and it checked that light was irradiated by the whole surface.

[0077]As a result, an optical exposure was not carried out, but while agitating, the concentration of benzene only decreased from 50 mmol/l to 47.3 mmol/l, and adsorption of benzene was a grade accepted slightly. After that, although 0.27mmol and carbon monoxide carried out the amount generation of traces by the optical exposure of 4 hours in carbon dioxide, there was little the quantity compared with Examples 1 and 2.

[0078](Comparative example 3) The activated carbon (catalyst) which made the titanium oxide which is the same procedure as the case of Example 1 except [all] it, and consists of an anatase type crystal instead of a carbonaceous hollow body using commercial activated carbon (product made from WAKO pure medicine) support 26% of the weight was obtained. This catalyst was used instead of the carbonaceous hollow body catalyst, and benzene was oxidized on the

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same conditions as the case of Example 1 except [all] it. At this time, the catalyst sedimented on the bottom of the container used for processing, and suited the tendency condensed a little. [0079]As a result, an optical exposure was not carried out, but while agitating, benzene concentration decreased from 50 mmol/l to 7.3 mmol/l, and adsorption of benzene was accepted. Although 0.65mmol and carbon monoxide carried out 0.084mmol generation by optical exposure in carbon dioxide, there was little the quantity compared with Examples 1 and 2, although there was much adsorption of benzene. Since the catalyst mainly sedimented or condensed this within the container, it is because the effect of the optical exposure was reduced.

[0080](Comparative example 4) The oxidative degradation examination of industrial lube of a petroleum system was done instead of the carbonaceous hollow body catalyst on the same conditions as the case of Example 4 except [all] it, using 0.3 g of commercial titanium oxide (product P-25 made from Japanese Aerosil) as a catalyst.

[0081]As a result, even if agitated gently, without carrying out an optical exposure, a lubricating oil was hardly adsorbed by the carbonaceous hollow body. Oxidative degradation of the lubricating oil was carried out by the optical exposure of 4 hours after that, and although 0.31mmol and carbon monoxide carried out 0.12mmol generation, the quantity had little carbon dioxide far compared with Example 4.

[Effect of the Invention] Since the carbonaceous hollow body catalyst of this invention has the operation which photooxidizes an organic compound and the carbonaceous hollow body with large specific surface area is moreover used as a carrier, while excelling in the adsorption capacity to the quality of an oxide and having high reaction efficiency, it has the special feature of being easy to gather on the water surface which sunlight reaches easily. Therefore, sunlight can be used without needing a big acceptance surface product, and it is especially suitable for the oxidative degradation of the organic compound under wastewater.

[0083] This carbonaceous hollow body catalyst can be easily manufactured by the method of this invention.

[Translation done.]

0082

号番關公願出指執(II)

(A) 游 念 稿 帮 開 念 (SI)

(19) 计精静固本日(61)

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去式用或与去式畫媒の子びよま製幀本空中買素炭 【称各の眼発】(42)

【磷麗】(四)

· 各当了社么 こるや置襲(よいとこるや燥血の転鳥、資かせま合てし 3等那部水を桝合かくをその面4の等くをそか副四やド くキホロ。てソトンタキ5J科材資素過、まい7るみ、0 よこ よこるせる計<u>財を欺</u>触光の面表の本空中の状態小猫るパ る料フノ焼朮以亜島で中戸囲寒るを行逝で遺状な全宗不 が熱熱、>な心心量素類、多(キッツや過子の状器) 料 林資素炭、LA製軸のこ。るきブやよこるや用動い断袂い 預代、法部書砚の献合小對するなま合い(中水批3)料) 熱軸のこ、、熱軸朴空中資素炭がれる計野が(朴尊半树 小類調金の等機小類、強圧小額、火をそ小類、制え例) **欺岫光□面素の朴空中資素炭の氷粒小游【母手夾辑】** 。るや判點を去て用動びよは去て影響の う、本製媧光るきつ類代、去網> 1率校を附合小 對すの 中水排い時、「一下多代」が強い強と錯音をなれる。「無に排い時」「一時に排い時」

【特許請求の範囲】

【請求項1】微小球状の炭素質中空体の表面に光触媒が 担持されていることを特徴とする炭素質中空体触媒。

【請求項2】粉状の炭素質材料を不活性雰囲気中で急速に加熱し、得られた微小球状の炭素質中空体に光触媒を担持させることを特徴とする請求項1に記載の炭素質中空体触媒の製造方法。

【請求項3】粉状の炭素質材料に光触媒前駆物質を担持させた後、不活性雰囲気中で急速に加熱し、次いて焼成することを特徴とする請求項1に記載の炭素質中空体触媒の製造方法。

【請求項4】請求項1に記載の炭素質中空体触媒を用いて水中に含まれる有機化合物を分解することを特徴とする炭素質中空体触媒の使用方法。

【発明の詳細な説明】

[0001]

【発明の属する技術分野】本発明は、吸着力が大きく、強い酸化力を有し、特に排水中の有機化合物を効率よく除去し、分解できる炭素質中空体触媒、ならびに、その触媒の製造方法および使用方法に関する。

[0002]

【従来の技術】半導体が光触媒として酸化作用を示すことはよく知られている。この半導体を利用して光触媒反応を行わせるには、一般に、微粉状の半導体粉末を被酸化物質を含む溶液中に懸濁させ、これに光を照射する方法が採られる。

【0003】排水に含まれる低濃度の有機化合物を除去するためには、活性炭を用いて吸着・除去する方法が古くから行われているが、排水中の有機化合物の酸化分解に上記のような半導体が有する光触媒作用を利用する方法も公知である。例えば、光触媒作用を有する酸化チタン(TiO_2)を担持した活性炭を用いることにより排水中に含まれる有機化合物(除草剤)を効率的に分解する方法が提案されている($Chemistry Letters(The Chemical Society of Japan), <math>P.1995\sim1998(1993)$)。

【0004】このように排水中の有機化合物の分解に半導体光触媒が用いられるのは、光触媒が有する酸化力の強さもさることながら、排水中では有機化合物の濃度が小さく、しかもその処理量が莫大であるため、エネルギーとして太陽光を利用することがコスト的にみて望ましいからである。

【0005】排水中で光触媒反応を行わせるに際しては、従来、半導体粉末を排水中に懸濁させてこれに太陽光を照射する方法が採られているため、比重が大きく、排水中で沈澱しやすい触媒は好ましくない。また、太陽光の届く深さには限りがあるので、この沈澱しやすい半導体粉末に太陽光を照射して触媒作用を発揮させるには受光面積を著しく大きなものとする必要がある。

【0006】上記の提案された方法においては、活性炭は真比重が1.6~2.1であって排水中で沈澱しやすいため、撹拌、回収などの処理が容易ではなく、さらに、太陽光を利用するに際し、上述したように受光面積を著しく大きなものとしなければならないという問題がある。

【0007】また、排水を処理の対象とした例ではない が、特開平6-170220号公報には、活性炭の表面 に光触媒(TiO2、WO3、Fe2O3等の金属酸化 物)を担持させた、安定した脱臭作用を長期間にわたっ て維持できる脱臭剤が開示されている。この光触媒は、 気相中における有機化合物(臭気成分)の分解に対して 優れた効果を発揮する。しかし、液相中では上記の提案 された方法におけると同様に光触媒体が沈降するため、 排水中に含まれる有機化合物の分解には適用できない。 【0008】一方、直径100μm程度のガラス中空体 の表面に光触媒(TiO。)を担持させた浮遊性の酸化 チタン光触媒が開発された(「季刊化学総説」No. 2 3 (1994)"光が関わる触媒化学"p. 129~1 32)。この触媒は水に浮くので、太陽光を効率よく利 用することができ、浮遊性の有機化合物(例えば、海上 に流出した原油等)の分解に好適であるとされている。 しかしながら、光触媒反応で重要な比表面積を大きくす ることができないので、被酸化物質を効率的に分解する ことができず、また、吸着能もほとんどないので、光照 射のない条件下では有機化合物の吸着・除去はできな

[0009]

【発明が解決しようとする課題】本発明は、有機化合物を酸化分解する作用を有する半導体光触媒、特にこの光触媒を用いて排水中の有機化合物を分解するに際しての上記の問題を解決し、太陽光の利用が容易で、反応効率が高く、しかも光照射のない条件下でも有機化合物の吸着・除去が可能な光触媒体、ならびにその製造方法および使用方法を提供することを目的としてなされたものである。

[0010]

【課題を解決するための手段】本発明者らは、上記の課題を解決するために検討を重ねた結果、微小球状の炭素質の中空体を光触媒の担体として使用することにより、太陽光を利用するに際して受光面積を著しく大きくする必要がなく、触媒の比表面積を大きくして分解反応を効率的に行わせることが可能であることを見いだした。

【0011】また、前記の微小球状の炭素質の中空体の表面に光触媒を担持させるには、微粉砕した石炭やピッチを不活性な雰囲気下で急速に加熱することにより微小球状の炭素質中空体とし、これに光触媒を担持させるか、あるいは微粉砕した石炭やピッチにチタンイソプロポキシドや四塩化チタン等の4個のチタン化合物(本発明では、これを「光触媒前駆物質」という)をアルコー

ル溶液や水溶液として含浸させ、不活性な雰囲気下で急速に加熱すればよいことを確認した。

【0012】上記の微小球状の炭素質中空体の表面に光触媒を担持させた炭素質中空体光触媒を用いれば、排水中に含まれる有機化合物、例えば、従来処理が困難であったBTX (ベンゼン、トルエン、キシレン)、潤滑油などの混入油、あるいは農薬等を容易に分解することができる。

【0013】本発明は上記の知見に基づいてなされたもので、その要旨は、下記(1)の炭素質中空体触媒、

- (2)および(3)のその触媒の製造方法、ならびに
- (4)のその触媒の使用方法にある。

【 O O 1 4 】 (1) 微小球状の炭素質中空体の表面に光 触媒が担持されていることを特徴とする炭素質中空体触 媒

【0015】(2)粉状の炭素質材料を不活性雰囲気中で急速に加熱し、得られた微小球状の炭素質中空体に光触媒を担持させることを特徴とする上記(1)に記載の炭素質中空体触媒の製造方法。

【 0 0 1 6 】 (3)粉状の炭素質材料に光触媒前駆物質 を担持させた後、不活性雰囲気中で急速に加熱し、次い で焼成することを特徴とする上記(1)に記載の炭素質 中空体触媒の製造方法。

【0017】(4)上記(1)に記載の炭素質中空体触媒を用いて水中に含まれる有機化合物を分解することを特徴とする炭素質中空体触媒の使用方法。

[0018]

【発明の実施の形態】以下に、本発明(上記(1)~ (4)の発明)について詳細に説明する。

【0019】上記(1)の発明の炭素質中空体触媒(以下、これを特に「本発明の炭素質中空体触媒」という)は、微小球状の炭素質中空体の表面に光触媒が担持された触媒である。

【0020】前記の微小球状の炭素質中空体とは、後に詳述するが、微粉砕した石炭やピッチを原料として加熱することにより得られる嵩比重が0.02~0.1g/cm³、粒子径が100~2500μmの多孔質炭素粒子である。光触媒を担持した後においても、見掛け比重が水より小さく、浮遊性(水面に浮かぶ性質)を有しており、比表面積が極めて大きい。

【0021】また、光触媒とは、そのバンドギャップ以上のエネルギーを有する波長の光を照射すると光触媒機能を発現する物質であり、例えば、酸化チタン、酸化亜鉛、チタン酸ストロンチウム、酸化タングステン、酸化イットリウム、酸化鉄等の公知の金属酸化物半導体が挙げられる。これらの半導体物質は、単一であってもよいし、二種類以上が組み合わされた混合物あるいは複合酸化物であってもよい。この光触媒としては、特に、高い光触媒能を有し、化学的に安定でかつ無害な酸化チタンが好ましい。

【0022】上記本発明の微小球状の炭素質中空体の光触媒担持量は、この中空体が光触媒を担持した状態で浮遊性を維持できる量であれば特に限定されない。しかし、炭素質中空体の大きな比表面積が十分保持され、同時に、光触媒の分散性もよく、より高い光触媒活性を得ることができるように、炭素質中空体に対して100重量%以下であるのが好ましい。より好ましくは、50重量%以下である。

【 O O 2 3 】本発明の発明の炭素質中空体触媒は有機化合物を光酸化する作用があり、しかも担体として微小球状の炭素質中空体を用いているので、下記の特徴を有している。

【0024】**①**担体としてガラス質中空体を用いた場合と同様に水面上に集まりやすく(浮遊性を有し)、そのため太陽光が届き易い。

【0025】②微小球状の炭素質中空体は活性炭と同様 に比表面積が大きい。

【0026】③炭素質中空体触媒は活性炭と同様に被酸化物質を吸着することができる。

【0027】前記(4)の発明は、この炭素質中空体触媒を水中に含まれる有機化合物の分解に使用する方法である。すなわち、本発明の炭素質中空体触媒が有する上記の特徴を最大限に利用するもので、この炭素質中空体触媒を用いて水中に含まれる有機化合物、特に、排水中のBTX、混入油等を分解する方法である。

【0028】この炭素質中空体触媒を用いるに際し、特別の装置等は必要ではない。例えば、この炭素質中空体触媒を上記の有機化合物を含有する排水中に加えて分散させ、必要に応じて撹拌すると、有機化合物は触媒表面に吸着、濃縮される。さらに、太陽光に曝すと、水面上に集まっている炭素質中空体触媒の光触媒粒子によって、前記の吸着された有機化合物は効率よく酸化分解される。

【0029】この炭素質中空体触媒は、水面上に集まりやすいという特性を有しているので、大きな受光面積を必要とせずに太陽光を利用することができる。また、比表面積が大きいので反応効率が高い。さらに、光照射のない条件下でも有機化合物を吸着除去し、光が照射されたときにその吸着した有機化合物を酸化分解して吸着能を回復させることができる。したがって、常に一定の高い吸着能を維持することができ、繰り返しの使用にも好適である。そのため、特に排水中の有機化合物の酸化分解に適しており、効率的な分解処理が可能である。

【0030】なお、本発明の炭素質中空体触媒は、排水中の有機化合物に限らず、上水、工業用水、あるいは海水など、一般に水中に含まれる有機化合物の除去・分解に有効である。したがって、工場排水や、一般家庭から排出されるいわゆる生活排水の浄化処理、農薬、有機ハロゲン化合物などの有害物質を含有した河川水、地下水等の処理、あるいは海上流出油や、赤潮などの処理等、

広範な分野で使用することができる。

【 0 0 3 1 】前記の(2)の発明は、上記本発明の炭素質中空体触媒の製造方法で、粉状の炭素質材料を不活性な雰囲気で急速に加熱して得られる微小球状の中空体の表面に光触媒を担持させる方法である。

【0032】原料として用いる炭素質材料は粉状の石炭やピッチ等で、好ましくは粒径が5mm以下になるように微粉砕したものである。

【 O O 3 3 】これらの原料を、不活性な雰囲気下で急速に加熱する。不活性な雰囲気とは、原料が完全燃焼するには不十分な量の酸素が含まれ、燃焼が不完全な状態で進行する雰囲気である。完全燃焼するに必要な量あるいはそれよりも過剰量の酸素が存在すると、石炭やピッチが完全燃焼し、目的とする微小球状の炭素質中空体を得ることができない。

【0034】加熱は、原料に含まれる揮発成分をガス化分離し、残部を炭化するために行うもので、加熱温度は、600~900℃とするのが好ましい。加熱温度が600℃よりも低いと原料中に含まれている揮発成分が十分にガス化せず、得られる炭素質の中空体の比重が大きくなりやすい。また、900℃を超えると加熱に要するコストが増大し経済的でない。

【0035】大きい比表面積を有する炭素質中空体を得るためには、ガス化により生成した気泡を粒子内部で生成したものまで含め急速に膨張させることが必要であり、急速に加熱する。穏やかな加熱では、気泡自体の成長が緩慢で十分膨張しないうちに炭化が完結してしまうので、空孔を多数有する比表面積の大きい炭素質中空体は得られない。なお、急速加熱は、室温付近から前記の加熱温度(600~900℃)までの全温度範囲にわたって、200~600℃/秒の加熱速度で行うのが好ましい。

【0036】上記の急速な加熱を行うためには、流動層型あるいは気流層型の反応器を用いるのが好適である。これらの反応器を使用し、例えば600~900℃に加熱された反応域を有する反応器の下流部から、原料と、この原料が完全燃焼するには不十分な量の酸素が含まれるガスを供給して、すなわち前記の不活性な雰囲気下で原料を不完全燃焼させる。

【0037】なお、このように、燃焼が不完全な状態で進行する条件のもとで、原料である石炭やピッチの一部を熱源として用いることもできる。その場合には、目的とする炭素質中空体の収率は低下するが、原料の一部の燃焼で生じる水蒸気によって、生成する微小球状の炭素質中空体が賦活されるので好適である。

【0038】このような加熱処理により生成する微小球状の炭素質中空体は反応器の上流部から燃焼ガスを含むガスとともに排出されるので、沪過、比重分離等によりガスと分離する。

【0039】得られる微小球状の炭素質中空体は、その

嵩比重が0.02~0.1g/cm³、粒子径が100~2500μmである。その性状は、用いる原料の性状 (特に、揮発成分量、灰分量)に大きく依存するが、適正な性状の微小球状の炭素質中空体が得られるように、 反応器における反応域の長さや、原料、不活性ガスの供 給速度等を適宜調整する。

【 0 0 4 0 】 このようにして得られた微小球状の炭素質中空体に、前記の光触媒を担持させる。

【 0 0 4 1 】これらの光触媒の担持方法について特に限定はなく、含浸法、混練法等、通常の触媒調製法によって担持させることができる。

【0042】例えば、酸化チタンを担持させる場合には、チタンイソプロキシド、四塩化チタン、硫酸チタン等の4個のチタン化合物(すなわち、光触媒前駆物質)のアルコール溶液あるいは水溶液に炭素質中空体を十分浸してチタン化合物を含浸させた後、沪過、遠心分離等によってこの炭素質中空体を分離する。その後、風乾、あるいは必要に応じて水蒸気処理を行うことによりチタン化合物を加水分解し、続いて乾燥・焼成することにより目的の炭素質中空体触媒を得る。

【0043】焼成は、光触媒を炭素質中空体に強固に担持させ、耐久性をもたせるために行うもので、窒素、アルゴン等の非酸化性雰囲気下で行うことが望ましいが、炭素質が燃焼しない温度以下で焼成する場合は空気中で行っても差し支えない。また、焼成温度について特に限定はなく、担持させた光触媒の粒子間に結合が生じて固まる、いわゆる焼結現象が生じる温度域であればよい。ただ、二酸化チタンの場合には、高い光触媒能を有するアナターゼ結晶が多く含まれるような焼成条件を選ぶ必要がある。

【 0 0 4 4 】上述した方法によれば、前記本発明の炭素 質中空体触媒を特別の手段を必要とせず、容易に製造す ることができる。

【0045】前記の(3)の発明は、同じく本発明の炭素質中空体触媒の製造方法で、炭素質材料に光触媒前駆物質を担持させた後、急速に加熱し、さらに不活性雰囲気下で焼成する方法である。

【0046】炭素質材料としては、前記(2)の発明におけると同様に、粉状の石炭やビッチ等を用いる。粒径が5mm以下になるように微粉砕したものが好ましい。

【0047】光触媒前駆物質とは、前記のように、チタンイソプロキシド、四塩化チタン、硫酸チタン等の4個のチタン化合物で、そのアルコール溶液あるいは水溶液に炭素質材料を十分に浸してチタン化合物を含浸させた後、沪過、遠心分離等によってこの炭素質材料を分離する

【0048】次いで、光触媒前駆物質を含浸させた炭素質材料を不活性な雰囲気下で急速に加熱する。不活性な雰囲気とは、前記(2)の発明の場合と同様で、原料が完全燃焼するには不十分な量の酸素が含まれ、燃焼が不

完全な状態で進行する雰囲気である。完全に燃焼するに 必要な量あるいはそれよりも過剰量の酸素が存在する と、炭素質材料が完全燃焼するため、目的とする炭素質 中空体触媒を得ることができない。

【0049】加熱温度は、600~900℃とするのが好ましい。加熱温度が600℃よりも低いと原料中に含まれている揮発成分のガス化が十分ではなく、得られる中空体の比重が大きくなりやすい。一方、900℃を超えると加熱に要するコストが増大する。

【0050】加熱は急速に行う。これによって、前記の(2)の発明で述べたと同様に比表面積の大きい炭素質中空体が得られ、さらに、炭素質材料(石炭、ピッチ等)が有しているカルボキシル基や水酸基と光触媒前駆物質との間に新たな結合が生じる。すなわち、光触媒が炭素質中空体に化学的に固定された状態となり、その安定性が向上する。なお、急速加熱は、(2)の発明の場合と同様に、室温付近から前記の加熱温度(600~90℃)までの全温度範囲にわたって、200~600℃/秒の加熱速度で行うのが好ましい。

【0051】上記の急速な加熱を行うためには、例えば、電気炉、マッフル炉等の高温槽を用い、炭素質材料と光触媒前駆物質との間で前記の結合が生じる温度にあらかじめ加熱しておき、その中に前記の光触媒前駆物質を含浸させた炭素質材料を装入して加熱するのが好ましい。

【0052】急速加熱を終えた後、さらに焼成する。焼成は、(2)の発明の場合と同様、炭素質中空体に固定された状態の光触媒の粒子を焼結させることにより一層強固に固定するために行うもので、この発明の目的物である炭素質中空体触媒の炭素質が燃焼しない条件下であれば、焼成時の雰囲気について特に限定はない。窒素、アルゴン等の非酸化性雰囲気下で行うことが望ましいが、炭素質が燃焼しない温度以下で焼成する場合は空気中で行っても差し支えない。

【0053】焼成温度についても特に限定はなく、上記の焼結現象が生じる温度域であればよい。ただ、二酸化チタンの場合には、(2)の発明におけると同様に、高い光触媒能を有するアナターゼ結晶が多く含まれるような焼成条件を選ぶ必要がある。

【0054】なお、装入物の急速昇温が可能な上記の高温槽を用いれば、例えば、600~900℃に加熱された高温槽内に原料を装入してそのまま保持することによって急速加熱と同時に焼成を行うことができるので、好適である。

【0055】上記の(3)の発明の方法によっても、特別の手段を必要とせずに前記本発明の炭素質中空体触媒を容易に製造することができる。

【0056】前記(2)の発明と(3)の発明とを比較した場合、(2)の発明では比較的軽質なものが得られるのに対して、(3)の発明では比表面積の大きいもの

が得られる傾向がある。また、(3)の発明では、得られる炭素質中空体触媒の収率は低くなるが、炭素質材料として用いる石炭等の構成分子が有している官能基(カルボキシル基、水酸基など)を介して二酸化チタン等の光触媒を炭素質中空体に強固に結合できるという特徴がある。

【0057】したがって、この炭素質中空体触媒を用いて行う処理対象物に含まれる有機化合物の種類、濃度、あるいは処理環境に応じて、製造方法を使い分け、それぞれの条件に適応した触媒を用いることが可能となる。 【0058】

【実施例】

(実施例1)炭素質材料(炭素質中空体の原料)として 粒径0.5~3mmに粉砕した亜歴青炭(揮発成分46 %、無水無灰基準)を用い、これを気流層型の反応器に 装入し、600℃に急速昇温(反応時間3秒)する加熱 処理を行い、生成した炭素質中空体を水で浮選し、浮遊 性の微小球状の炭素質中空体を得た。その嵩比重は0. 09g/cm³、BET比表面積は100cm²/gで あった。

【0059】この炭素質中空体10gを、チタンイソプロキシド30gをエタノール30ミリリットル(m1)に混合した溶液に入れ、適宜、超音波を与えながら、3時間緩やかに撹拌した。次いで、浮遊物を沪別し、これを24時間風乾した後、空気中250℃で2時間乾燥し、続いて窒素気流下(200m1/分)、600℃で5時間焼成することによって、酸化チタンを炭素質中空体に対して30重量%担持した炭素質中空体触媒を得た。担持された酸化チタンは、アナターゼ型結晶であることをX線回析によって確認した。

【0060】このようにして得られた炭素質中空体触媒を用いて蒸留水に添加したベンゼンの酸化を行った。

【0061】まず、平型セル(パイレックス製、内径6cm、深さ5cm)に、蒸留水にベンゼンを50ミリモル/リットル(mmo1/1)になるように添加した混合液30cm³を入れ、これに炭素質中空体触媒0.5gを加えて分散させ、石英製円板で蓋をした。次いで、空気飽和状態の下で、光照射を行わずに緩やかに磁気撹拌し(500rpm)、1時間後、液中のベンゼン濃度を測定した。これは、太陽光が利用できない場合を想定して行った試験である。

【0062】その後、25℃において、上方から250 Wの高圧水銀灯の光を、UVカットフィルター(東芝製 UV-31)を通して照射し、反応を行わせた。なお、 反応の際、触媒は液面に浮遊状態で存在しており、光は その全面に照射されることを確認した。

【0063】ベンゼンおよびその分解生成物の分析は、液相部については高速液体クロマトグラフィー(カラム;トーソー製TSK-gel ODS-80TS)により、また、気相部についてはガスクロマトグラフィー

(カラム;GLサイエンス製UNIBEADS-C)により行った。

【0064】その結果、ベンゼンは、光照射せずに緩やかに撹拌する間に炭素質中空体触媒に吸着され、1時間でその濃度は $50\,\mathrm{mmol/l}$ から $10.5\,\mathrm{mmol/l}$ に減少した。また、その後4時間の光照射によって、ベンゼンは酸化分解され、二酸化炭素が $0.88\,\mathrm{mmol/l}$ 、一酸化炭素が $0.07\,\mathrm{mmol/l}$ 生成した。

【0065】(実施例2)チタンイソプロキシド80gを、激しく撹拌している蒸留水500cm³に滴下し、その後硝酸(60%)5gを加えた。次いで、80℃において24時間撹拌し、真空下で濃縮した後、さらに1N水酸化ナトリウム溶液を加えてpHを調整し、酸化チタンを10重量%含むゾル液(pH約3.0)を得た。【0066】このゾル液に、実施例1で調製した酸化チタンを担持していない炭素質中空体10gを入れ、5時間緩やかに撹拌した。その後、浮遊物を沪別し、蒸留水で十分に洗浄した後、空気中250℃で2時間焼成して、酸化チタンを45重量%担持した炭素質中空体触媒を得た。この酸化チタンは、アナターゼ型結晶として存在することをX線回析によって確認した。

【0067】このようにして得られた炭素質中空体触媒を用いてベンゼンの酸化を行った。なお、酸化の条件および分析方法は実施例1の場合と同じとした。

【0068】その結果、光照射せずに緩やかに撹拌する間における炭素質中空体触媒への吸着により、ベンゼンの濃度は $50 \,\mathrm{mmol/l}$ に がら $12.4 \,\mathrm{mmol/l}$ に 減少した。また、その後4時間の光照射によってベンゼンは酸化分解され、二酸化炭素が $1.15 \,\mathrm{mmol}$ 、一酸化炭素が $0.025 \,\mathrm{mmol}$ 生成した。

【0069】(実施例3)炭素質材料として、実施例1で使用した粒径0.5~3mmに粉砕した亜歴青炭(揮発成分46%、無水無灰基準)を用い、その10gを、チタンイソプロキシド30gをエタノール30mlに混合した溶液に入れ、適宜、超音波を与えながら、3時間緩やかに撹拌した。次いで、浮遊物を沪別し、これを24時間風乾した後、空気中250℃で2時間乾燥し、続いて窒素雰囲気下、600℃に保持した高温槽中に入れて5時間焼成し、酸化チタンが炭素質中空体に担持された炭素質中空体触媒6gを得た。酸化チタンの炭素質中空体触媒に対する割合は35重量%であり、アナターゼ型結晶であることをX線回析によって確認した。

【0070】このようにして得られた炭素質中空体触媒には、水上に浮遊するものと、水中に沈むものとがあったが、両者が混在した状態のまま、実施例1と同様の方法で水溶液中のベンゼンの酸化を行った。なお、酸化の条件および分析方法は実施例1の場合と同じとした。

【0071】その結果、光照射を行わずに緩やかに撹拌する間にベンゼンは炭素質中空体触媒に吸着され、1時間でその濃度が50mmo1/1から10mmo1/1

に減少した。また、その後4時間の光照射によってベンゼンは酸化分解され、二酸化炭素が0.9mmol、一酸化炭素が0.9mmol生成した。

【0072】(実施例4)製鉄所内で使用される石油系の工業用潤滑油の0.1gを水30mlに加え、それに実施例1で調製した炭素質中空体触媒0.5gを分散させた液を用いて、実施例1と同様の方法で潤滑油の酸化分解試験を行った。なお、水中の潤滑油量の測定は、触媒をろ過した後、ろ液からクロロホルムを用いて潤滑油を抽出し、その抽出液の吸光度を測定することにより行った。

【0073】その結果、光照射せずに緩やかに撹拌する間に潤滑油の80%程度が炭素質中空体に吸着された。また、その後4時間の光照射によって潤滑油は酸化分解され、二酸化炭素が1.3mmol、一酸化炭素が0.30mmol生成した。

【0074】(比較例1)炭素質中空体触媒の代わりに 市販の酸化チタン(日本アエロジル製P-25)0.3 gを触媒として用い、それ以外は全て実施例1の場合と 同じ条件でベンゼンの酸化を行った。

【0075】その結果、ベンゼンの濃度は光照射せずに 緩やかに撹拌する間にはほとんど減少せず、ベンゼンの 吸着は認められなかった。また、その後4時間の光照射 によって、二酸化炭素が0.19mmol、一酸化炭素が0.062mmol生成したが、その量は実施例1および2に比べてはるかに少なかった。

【0076】(比較例2)炭素質中空体触媒の代わりに、別に調製したアナターゼ型結晶からなる酸化チタンを担持させたガラス中空体(酸化チタン担持量:ガラス中空体に対して20.4重量%)を触媒として用い、それ以外は全て実施例1の場合と同じ条件でベンゼンの酸化を行った。なお、このとき、触媒は炭素質中空体触媒を用いた場合と同様に液面に浮遊し、光は全面に照射されることを確認した。

【0077】その結果、光照射せず撹拌する間に、ベンゼンの濃度は50mmo1/1から47.3mmo1/1まで減少しただけで、ベンゼンの吸着はわずかに認められる程度であった。また、その後4時間の光照射によって、二酸化炭素が0.27mmo1、一酸化炭素が痕跡量生成したが、その量は実施例1および2に比べて少なかった。

【0078】(比較例3)炭素質中空体の代わりに市販の活性炭(ワコー純薬製)を用い、それ以外は全て実施例1の場合と同じ手順で、アナターゼ型結晶からなる酸化チタンを26重量%担持させた活性炭(触媒)を得た。この触媒を、炭素質中空体触媒の代わりに用い、それ以外は全て実施例1の場合と同じ条件でベンゼンの酸化を行った。なお、このとき、触媒は処理に用いた容器の底面に沈降し、やや凝集する傾向にあった。

【0079】その結果、光照射せず撹拌する間に、ベン

ゼン濃度は50mmo1/1から7.3mmo1/1に減少し、ベンゼンの吸着が認められた。また、光照射によって二酸化炭素が0.65mmo1、一酸化炭素が0.084mmo1生成したが、その量は、実施例1および2に比べると、ベンゼンの吸着が多かった割には少なかった。これは、主に触媒が容器内で沈降ないしは凝集したため光照射の効果が減殺されたことによるものである。

【0080】(比較例4)炭素質中空体触媒の代わりに 市販の酸化チタン(日本アエロジル製P-25)0.3 gを触媒として用い、それ以外は全て実施例4の場合と 同じ条件で石油系の工業用潤滑油の酸化分解試験を行っ た。

【0081】その結果、光照射せずに緩やかに撹拌しても潤滑油は炭素質中空体にほとんど吸着されなかった。

また、その後4時間の光照射によって潤滑油は酸化分解され、二酸化炭素が0.31mmol、一酸化炭素が0.12mmol生成したが、その量は、実施例4に比べるとはるかに少ないものであった。

[0082]

【発明の効果】本発明の炭素質中空体触媒は有機化合物を光酸化する作用があり、しかも担体として比表面積が大きい炭素質中空体を用いているので、被酸化物質に対する吸着能に優れ、高い反応効率を有するとともに、太陽光が届き易い水面上に集まりやすいという特質を有している。そのため、大きな受光面積を必要とせずに太陽光を利用することができ、特に排水中の有機化合物の酸化分解に適している。

【0083】この炭素質中空体触媒は本発明の方法により容易に製造することができる。

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